Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: February 17, 2021

2020/2021 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL TANNER CRAB FISHING SEASON

The Registration Area A (Southeast Alaska) Tanner crab harvest strategy [5 AAC 35.113] establishes commercial Tanner crab fishing season length using estimated mature male biomass and the number of registered pots at the start of the fishery. As of 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 17, 2021, there are 58 pot vessels and 4,640 pots registered for the 2020/2021 commercial Tanner crab fishery. At the current estimated mature male biomass and effort level of 4,640 registered pots, the harvest strategy provides one additional day of season length in "core", "non-core", and "exploratory" areas. The 2020/2021 commercial Tanner crab fishery in Southeast Alaska will open in "core", "non-core", and "exploratory" areas (described in 5 AAC 35.113(c)) at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, February 17, 2021. The season will close in "core" fishing areas after six fishing days at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, close in "non-core" areas after eleven fishing days at 12:00 noon on Sunday, February 28, 2021, and close in the "exploratory" area after twenty-five fishing days at 12:00 noon on Sunday, March 14, 2021.

Shellfish management staff will be available in Juneau/Douglas and Petersburg for permit holders during the duration of the Tanner crab fishery, including the first two weekends on an "on-call" capacity. For assistance February 20-21 and February 27-28, shellfish management staff in Juneau/Douglas can be reached at (907) 723-3342 and (907) 957-2256, and in Petersburg at (907) 518-4421 and (907) 518-0755.

Under Alaska's Health Orders 5, 6, and 8, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Orders. COVID-19 Health Orders may be found here: https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-order/.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C0721.

Advisory Announcement web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

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